AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

1. Please amend the paragraph between lines 6-9 of page 17 as shown below:

"FIGURE 77 is a front perspective view of another single segment base member having a sidewall with dual openings therein and a modified plate-shaped~~like~~ support for a decorative insert."

2. Please amend the paragraph between lines 20-23 of page 23 as shown below:

"The two decorative objects 55, 59 are described separately in this description to indicate that the design and shape of such decorative objects 55, 59 need not necessarily be identical as they appear ~~they appear~~ to be in FIGS. 16-24."

3. Please amend the paragraphs between lines 5-25 of page 32 as shown below:

"FIG. 56 is a portion of a necklace 235 having a center piece 237 of arbitrary design and also containing a number of cylindrical pockets ~~239~~ formed therein in areas 239. Again, an insertable decorative jewelry item such as that shown in FIG. 50 may be fixedly attached within the cylindrical pockets in areas 239. Alternatively, as with the bracelet of FIG. 55, ~~a base, also numbered 239~~ in FIG. 56, a base may be integrally formed in areas 239 when the necklace center piece is formed.

FIG. 57 shows a front perspective view of a finger ring of arbitrary design, except that a front central area of the ring 241 has a heart shaped pocket ~~243~~ formed therein in an area 243 for accepting a single non-segmented decorative jewelry item such as that shown in FIG. 54. Alternatively, as with the bracelet of FIG. 55, ~~the base, also numbered 243~~ in FIG. 57, a base may be integrally formed in area 243 when the ring is

formed.

FIG. 58 similarly shows a pendant, or broach, 245 of arbitrary design having a number of cylindrical pockets ~~247~~ formed therein in areas 247 to accept a single non-segmented decorative jewelry item. Alternatively, as with the bracelet of FIG. 55, ~~the base, also numbered 247~~ in FIG. 58, a base may be integrally formed in areas 247 when the pendant or broach is formed."

4. Please amend the paragraph between lines 10-20 of page 33 as shown below:

"The base member 261 has a hollow interior, a top 262 with a pair of heart shaped openings formed therein leading to a hollow interior. A sidewall 263 extends from the top surface 262 downwardly and has at least one opening 269 therein in each of the two segments 265~~263~~, 265 of the base member 261. In the front and side perspective views shown in FIGS. 60 and 61, it will be observed that a pair of bent latch fingers 267 are attached to the bottom of the sidewall 263. In the preferred embodiment, latch fingers 267 are formed on the bottom surface of a window 264 formed at the bottom of the base member 261 in each segment 265~~263~~, 265."

5. Please amend the paragraph between lines 22-28 of page 34 as shown below:

"The precious stone 287 shown has its widest dimension larger than both the opening 289 in cap 283 and the distance between the inwardly ends of projecting tabs 293 in base member 285. This is best seen in FIG. 66, which is a top view of just the base member 285 of the variation shown in FIG. 65, with the cap removed and with the precious stone 287 schematically represented by a dashed line."

6. Please amend the paragraph between line 31 of page 35 and line 10 of page 36 as

shown below:

"FIG. 68 is a partial cross sectional view of a second type of teetering mechanism between a decorative object 307 and the top surface 309 of a base member. Here, the base member top surface 309 extends across the hollow interior of the base member, and the decorative object 307 has a bottom with a downwardly projecting bump 311 positioned thereon, whereby the loosely captured decorative object 307 teeters on the bump 311 functioning as a fulcrum. The base member top surface 309 may be a plate-shaped ~~like~~ member spanning the entire extent of the interior of the base member, or it may be a band or strap connected at its ends across the extent of the interior of the base member."

7. Please amend the paragraph between lines 3-20 of page 38 as shown below:

"Spanning across the hollow interior of base member 341 ~~sis~~ is a support brace 353 having an insert support 355 fixed thereto, the insert support 355 having a hole 357 sized, shaped, and oriented to receive the pin 363 of a decorative object 359 shown in Figures 74 and 75. The decorative object 359 comprises a plate-shaped ~~like~~ decorative insert 361 having mounting pin 363 projecting from its rear.

Other configurations of base members which can receive a decorative insert inserted from the top are shown in figures 76 and 77. In Figure 76, a base member 365, having a top 367, sidewalls 369, a connector tongue 377 and mating rear opening 279, and window openings 371 in the sidewalls 369, also has an insert support in the form of a flat plate-shaped ~~like~~ member 373. A flat decorative insert, like that of figure 62 may be inserted through the top opening 368 and affixed to the insert support 373 by any known process. An optional hole 375 may be

provided to accept a decorative insert of the type shown in figure 74 and 75."

8. Please amend the paragraph between lines 10-21 of page 39 as shown below:

"To accomplish this, rather than to solidly affix the decorative object 359 in place, pin 363 ~~361~~ (Figure 75) can pass through the hole 357,375 in its support 355, 373 and be bent, or have an adhesive, solder, weld, or retainer 364 ~~363~~ applied on pin 363 ~~361~~ below and spaced from its support 355 or 373 (suggested by the dashed lines 355 in figure 75). By making the hole 357, 375 slightly larger than the pin 359, the decorative object 359 is free to rotate and slidably move toward and away from the top of the base member 341, 365 to a limited extent, and if the hole is large enough, the decorative object 359 may additionally tilt, all adding to the visual character of the completed jewelry item."

9. Please amend the paragraph between lines 1-6 of page 40, as shown below:

"A pair of decorative objects 359, with their plate-shaped~~like~~ decorative inserts 361 and rear projecting pins 363, are shown just being inserted in insert supports 409 in Figure 84. Figures 85 and 86 show, respectively, side and front perspective views of the completed dual segmented jewelry article."

10. Please amend the paragraph between lines 18-28 of page 41 as shown below:

"In like manner, the circular and heart shaped decorative objects and inserts shown and described herein are merely examples of an unlimited number of shapes and configurations, and the invention is not to be limited to the shapes and configurations depicted in the drawing and described herein.

For example, one interesting shape configuration for a decorative insert is that of a daisy flower with a center stem. In such an embodiment, the plate-shaped ~~-like~~ daisy flower insert may purposely be positioned spaced from the underlying insert support to simulate a flower at the end of a flower stem."

11. Please amend the paragraph between lines 21-29 of page 42 as shown below:

"In all embodiments and variations of the invention, the base members and caps do not necessarily have to be of the same type of material ~~(metal)~~ or color. For example, the base member can be silver, while the cap is yellow gold, or the base member and cap can be of different gold carat weights. Another example is a white gold base member with a pink gold cap. It is also within the scope of he present invention to make the base member of plastic or other hard material that is aesthetically pleasing to the eye."

12. Please amend the paragraph between lines 1-17 of page 44 as shown below:

"In the preferred embodiments shown and described herein, the fastening means for fixing the cap to the base member, fixing a decorative object to the top surface of a base member, or maintaining a decorative insert within the hollow interior of a base member, may be implemented by methods such as soldering, swaging, scoring, adhesive bonding, and welding including laser welding. Swaging, scoring, and laser welding are techniques that work well with certain assembly process steps in accordance with the present invention, but are not suitable for fixing real gems in place due in large part to the configuration, shape, and weight of real gems. As to laser welding, reference is made to the apparatus and methods of laser welding techniques disclosed in California precision Products Co. Catalog "Laser Spot-Welding

Systems", One Industrial Court, Riverside, Rhode Island 02915, U.S.A. Reference can be made to the ~~The~~ document mentioned in the preceding sentence ~~is incorporated herein by reference~~."

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